

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MUSCAT 00220 200533Z

21

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 FPC-01 H-01 INR-07

INT-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 SAM-01 OES-03

SP-02 SS-15 STR-01 TRSE-00 FRB-03 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06

EUR-12 /100 W

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R 200330Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 893

C O N F I D E N T I A L MUSCAT 220

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, EFIN, MU, JA

SUBJECT: STATUS OF JAPANESE FIRM'S PURCHASE OF OMANI PETROLEUM

REF: A. LONDON 1738 (FEB. 74)

B. ABU DHABI 609 (MAY 74)

C. KUWAIT 2910 (JULY 74) NOTAL

D. MUSCAT 219 (NOTAL)

1. REFTEL (A) REPORTED THAT C. ITOH OF JAPAN HAD CONTRACTED TO PURCHASE 4.5 MILLION TONS OF PETROLEUM FROM OMAN AT REPORTED PRICE OF \$12.23. REFTELS (B) AND (C) GAVE CONFLICTING INFORMATION AS TO WHETHER AGREEMENT SUSPENDED.

2. LATEST INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO EMBASSY INDICATES THAT C. ITOH STILL HAS OPTION ON SMALL QUANTITY OF PETROLEUM (30,000 BPD). HOWEVER, BECAUSE OF SOFT MARKET CONDITIONS, JAPANESE COMPANY HAS NOT BEEN TAKING THIS AMOUNT RECENTLY. INSTEAD, SHELL HAS TAKEN ITOH'S SHARE IN ADDITION TO ITS OWN. NOW, SHELL IS FACED WITH OVERSUPPLY SITUATION AND, HENCE, NO LONGER INTERESTED IN TAKING ITOH LIFTINGS. EMBASSY
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PAGE 02 MUSCAT 00220 200533Z

SOURCES REPORT THAT OMANGOV MAY HAVE OFFERED C. ITOH 7 PERCENT

PRICE REDUCTION AS INDUCEMENT TO GET COMPANY TO BUY QUANTITIES
INDICATED.

3. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION TOKYO MAY
PROVIDE CONCERNING C. ITOH'S PRESENT ARRANGEMENT WITH OMANGOV.
WOLLE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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